

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Kindly cancel claims 3-9, 11 and 14-19 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly enter the following amended claims:

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1. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily consisting essentially of all or part of the amino acid sequence of murine Confluency Regulated Adhesion Molecule 1 (muCRAM-1, SEQ ID NO: 13), the isolated polypeptide being capable of modulating vascular endothelium function.

F6

2. (Twice Amended) An isolated polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily consisting essentially of all or part of the amino acid sequence of human Confluency Regulated Adhesion Molecule 1 (huCRAM-1, SEQ ID NO.: 15), the isolated polypeptide being capable of modulating vascular endothelium function.

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F2

10. (Amended) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein the polypeptide is a soluble polypeptide that inhibits transendothelial migration of leukocytes.

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F8

12. (Twice Amended) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 10, the polypeptide comprising at least one sequence against which anti-CRAM antibodies can be directed, the at least one sequence being selected from the group consisting of extracellular domain V, extracellular domain C<sub>2</sub> and the membrane proximal cytoplasmic sequence defined by amino acids 266-272 of SEQ ID NO.: 13.

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*F9*  
13. The isolated polypeptide as claimed in claims 1, or 2 in soluble form.

Kindly enter the following new claims.

20. (New) The isolated polypeptide according to claim 13, wherein the isolated soluble polypeptide is capable of modulating vascular permeability.

*F10*  
21. (New) An isolated, soluble polypeptide belonging to a subfamily of the Immunoglobulin Superfamily having essentially 100% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence of muCRAM-1, set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13, or having essentially 100% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence of human huCRAM-1, set forth in SEQ ID NO.: 15;

wherein the isolated polypeptide polypeptide exhibits at least one function selected from the group consisting of inhibition of transendothelial migration of leukocytes and modulation of vascular permeability.